

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. *(currently amended)* A body for an electrodeless lamp of ceramic material and containing excitable material, the body comprising:

- a body preform of sintered ceramic material, defining the shape of the body which is hollow; and
- a translucent window on the body, the window and the preform being a coherent unit resulting from the window having been pressed onto the preform when green and the window having been united to the preform on firing of the ceramic material for sintering of the body preform;

the body further comprising:

- an aperture in the sintered preform for charging the excitable material into the hollow body; and
- ~~a translucent window, the window and the preform being a coherent unit resulting from the window having been pressed onto the preform when green and the window having been united to the preform on firing of the ceramic material.~~

2. *(original)* An electrodeless lamp body according to claim 1, wherein the preform has a stepped recess at one end for receiving the window, which is accommodated in the stepped recess.

3. *(original)* An electrodeless lamp body according to claim 1, wherein the body has a flat end opposite from the window for receiving a disc of sintered ceramic material for sealing the aperture.

4. *(currently amended)* ~~An electrodeless lamp body according to claim 1~~ A body for an electrodeless lamp of ceramic material and containing excitable material, the body comprising:
- a body preform of sintered ceramic material, defining the shape of the body which is hollow;
  - an aperture in the preform for charging the excitable material into the hollow body; and
  - a translucent window, the window and the preform being a coherent unit resulting from the window having been pressed onto the preform when green and the window having been united to the preform on firing of the ceramic material, wherein the aperture in the preform has a surrounding formation which is collapsible on laser irradiation to seal the aperture, the aperture preferably being at an end of the preform opposite from the window.
5. *(original)* An electrodeless lamp body according to claim 4, wherein the surrounding formation comprises an annular lip around the aperture.
6. *(original)* An electrodeless lamp body according to claim 1, wherein the ceramic material of the preform is of alumina ceramic or quartz.
7. *(original)* An electrodeless lamp body according to claim 1, wherein the window is of artificial sapphire or of quartz.
8. *(original)* An electrodeless lamp comprising a lamp body according to claim 1, the body being sealed at its charging aperture and containing excitable material.
9. *(original)* An electrodeless lamp according to claim 8, wherein the body has a flat end opposite from the window for receiving a disc of sintered ceramic material for sealing the aperture, the ceramic disc being sealingly adhered to the preform with the interposition of frit material.

10. *(currently amended)* ~~An electrodeless lamp according to claim 8~~ A body for an electrodeless lamp of ceramic material and containing excitable material, the body comprising:

- a body preform of sintered ceramic material, defining the shape of the body which is hollow;
- an aperture in the preform for charging the excitable material into the hollow body; and
- a translucent window, the window and the preform being a coherent unit resulting from the window having been pressed onto the preform when green and the window having been united to the preform on firing of the ceramic material, the body being sealed at its charging aperture and containing excitable material, wherein the aperture in the preform has a surrounding formation which is collapsible on laser irradiation to seal the aperture, the aperture being at an end of the preform opposite from the window, the formation around the aperture being collapsed to seal it.

11.-17. *(cancelled)*

18. *(new)* A body for an electrodeless lamp of ceramic material and containing excitable material, the body comprising:

- a body preform of sintered ceramic material, defining the shape of the body which is hollow;
- a translucent window on the body, the window and the preform being a coherent unit resulting from the window having been pressed onto the preform when green and the window having been united to the preform on firing of the ceramic material for sintering of the body preform; and
- an aperture in the sintered preform for charging the excitable material into the hollow body, the aperture having:
  - a surrounding formation which is collapsible on laser irradiation to seal the aperture.

19.     *(new)* An electrodeless lamp body according to claim 18, wherein the surrounding formation comprises an annular lip around the aperture.
20.     *(new)* An electrodeless lamp body according to claim 18, wherein the ceramic material of the preform is of alumina ceramic or quartz.
21.     *(new)* An electrodeless lamp body according to claim 18, wherein the window is of artificial sapphire or of quartz.
22.     *(new)* An electrodeless lamp body according to claim 1, wherein the aperture is at an end of the preform opposite from the window.
23.     *(new)* An electrodeless lamp comprising a lamp body according to claim 1, the body being sealed at its charging aperture and containing excitable material.
24.     *(new)* An electrodeless lamp according to claim 23, wherein the body has a flat end opposite from the window for receiving a disc of sintered ceramic material for sealing the aperture, the ceramic disc being sealingly adhered to the preform with the interposition of frit material.
25.     *(new)* An electrodeless lamp according to claim 23, wherein the aperture in the preform has a surrounding formation which is collapsible on laser irradiation to seal the aperture, the aperture being at an end of the preform opposite from the window, the formation around the aperture being collapsed to seal it.